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May 3, 2007

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Ms. Diane Smith  
U. S. Patent Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: U.S. Patent Application  
Serial No. 10/572,604

Dear Ms. Smith:

Per your telephone request for today, we are returning the Official Filing Receipt for Serial No. 10/572,604 to the Patent Office. As discussed, this case and this client do not belong to our firm. We appreciate your assistance in entering the correct firm in the PAIR database to prevent future mailings being sent to our office.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

With best regards,

Very truly yours,

ROBINSON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW OFFICE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Robinson", is written over the printed name.

Eric J. Robinson

EJR/pll  
Enclosures



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/572,604	11/20/2006	2622	1630	SONYJP 3.3-453	10	6

CONFIRMATION NO. 2893

Eric J Robinson  
 Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office  
 PMB 955  
 21010 South Bank Street  
 Potomac Falls, VA 20165

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000023407485\*

Date Mailed: 04/19/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).**

## Applicant(s)

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 Shigeo Kubota, Kanagawa, JAPAN;  
 Hideo Morita, Tokyo, JAPAN;

## Assignment For Published Patent Application

Sony Corporation, Tokyo, JAPAN

Power of Attorney: None

## Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP05/12827 07/12/2005

## Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2004-211419 07/20/2004

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 04/16/2007

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/572,604**

Projected Publication Date: 07/26/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**Title**

Signal processing apparatus and method, and program

**Preliminary Class**

348

## **PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES**

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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**Title 35, United States Code, Section 184**  
**Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

**GRANTED**

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

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**NOT GRANTED**

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/572,604	Ko Ishimoto	SONYJP 3.3-453

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	
PCT/JP05/12827	
I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
07/12/2005	07/20/2004

Eric J Robinson  
 Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office  
 PMB 955  
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 Potomac Falls, VA 20165

CONFIRMATION NO. 2893

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



\*OC000000023407486\*

Date Mailed: 04/19/2007

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495**

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

<u>11/20/2006</u>	<u>11/20/2006</u>
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS	DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 03/20/2006
- English Translation of the IA filed on 03/20/2006
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 03/20/2006
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 03/20/2006
- Oath or Declaration filed on 11/20/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 03/20/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 03/20/2006
- Assignment filed on 11/20/2006
- Priority Documents filed on 03/20/2006
- Non-English Language Application filed on 03/20/2006
- Specification filed on 03/20/2006

- Claims filed on 03/20/2006
- Abstracts filed on 03/20/2006
- Drawings filed on 03/20/2006

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Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

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DIANE L SMITH

Telephone: (703) 308-9290 EXT 121

**PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY**

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)